

May 10, 2002

House Votes on Fiscal Year 2003 Defense Authorization

Bill authorizes preliminary engineering work on replacing the Navy's "Prowler", advanced procurement for Boeing's "Goshawk" Trainer and over \$6 billion in Boeing F-18 Super Hornets and C-17s

Washington, D.C.- Thursday night, the House passed the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003. Representative Todd Akin a member of the House Armed Service Committee voted in favor of the bill.

The bill includes authorization for \$6.3 billion in Boeing aircraft and munitions.

- 44 F/A-18E/F Super Hornets
- 15 C-17 transports
- T-45 Navy jet trainers
- 120 SLAM-ER missiles built in St. Charles

The bill also authorizes work toward future projects that will greatly benefit our military. Both of the following measures were proposed by Akin in the House Armed Services Committee.

- Engineering work on a replacement for the Navy's aging EA-6B "Prowler," which performs the critical Navy/Airforce radar-jamming mission. A variant of Boeing's Super Hornet is the Navy's preferred replacement. For St. Louis that could mean production of up to 150 additional Super Hornets.
- Funding for advance procurement for Boeing's T-45 Goshawk Navy trainer in FY 2004 and beyond. Akin's proposal would have Boeing build 15 T-45s per year for three years.

"The programs we have authorized will bolster our defense against terrorism and improve our ability to defend ourselves at home and abroad," said Akin. "The bill authorizes the largest increase in military manpower since 1986 and puts us on the right track to repairing our long neglected military."